

ROUTINE

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DIST 24 DECEMBER 1974

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1. ACCORDING TO

THE CHILEAN JUNTA HAS DECIDED TO ALLOH THE RETURN TO CHILE OF RENAN F U E N T E A L B A. LEFT-HING LEADER OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC), WHO WAS EXPELLED FROM CHILE ON 26 NOVEMBER FOR VIOLATING THE BAN ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY, AND WHO IS NOW LIVING IN COSTA RICA, COMMENTE

THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION WILL BE ANNOUNCED WITHIN THE NEXT FEH DAYS WHEN THE SUPREME COURT RULES WHETHER OR NOT FUENTE-

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(election) (dissert or

ALBA WAS LEGALLY EXPELLED FROM THE COUNTRY. THE JUNTA IS ALMOST CERTAIN THE COURT WILL RULE IN FAVOR OF THE GOVERNMENT, AT WHICH TIME IT EXPECTS THE PDC TO PROTEST AND CLAIM RULE BY LAW IS SERIOUSLY THREATENED IN CHILE. THE JUNTA HOPES THAT ITS DECISION WILL NOT ONLY MUFFLE PDC PROTESTS BUT BE INTERPRETED WIDELY AS A MAGNANIMOUS, CONCILIATORY GESTURE ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT.

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